(B) Number of PCOs provided by Private Operators in Punjab as on 22.02.2006

Sl. No.	Name of Private Operators	Number of PCOs
1	Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	37,621
2	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	19,372
3	HFCL Infotel Ltd.	41,702
4	Bharti Tele-ventures Ltd.	12,401
	Total	1,11,096

Guidelines relating to tapping of telephone calls

1368. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some fresh guidelines have been issued for tightening the rules relating to intercepting of telephone calls; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, especially those aimed at making the security agencies and telephone companies more accountable while tapping the phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions for ensuring privacy of communication has been issued by the Government which inter-alia include the following:

For Telephone Companies:

- To issue acknowledgment letters to Security Agencies within two hours of the receipt fo communication.
- To put in place of adequate and effective internal checks within their organizations.
- To have designated officers to receive the communication.
- Such communication to be handled by fairly senior level officers.

For Security Agencies:

- Only designated officers to convey the instructions for interception.

- Designated officers of the Security Agencies to deliver the letters to Service Providers.

- In emergent cases of carrying out interception.

- Post confirmation from the Competent Authority is to be provided within seven days of the issue of the orders of interception in emergent cases.

Guidelines Issued to GSM Operators

1369. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI have issued some guidelines to GSM operators who are misleading public with different tariff plans;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that Airtel have recently issued an advertisement providing roaming facility without any security deposit; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not returning the security deposits of regular subscribers, deposited with Airtel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 16th September, 2005 has directed all telecom service providers that no tariff plan shall be offered, presented, marketed or advertised in a manner that is likely to mislead the subscribers and that all monthly fixed recurring charges which are compulsory for a subscriber under any given plan shall be shown under one head.

(c) and (d) Sir, the tariff for mobile services are forborne by TRAI. As per M/s Bharti (Airtel) they have been doing roaming promotions at various Circles from time to time, wherein they offer customers the opportunity to roam within Airtel Network by waiving the security deposits and the special prices/discounts are offered by them to the customers for buying their products/services during the period of promotional campaign and such benefits are only extended to those customer, who purchase the product/ services during that period, irrespective of whether the customer is new or the existing one.